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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 STATE 017901

SIPDIS, SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AEMR](#) [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [KFLO](#) [MARR](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#) [AMGT](#) [HA](#)

SUBJECT: TFHA01: HAITI EARTHQUAKE TASK FORCE SITUATION REPORT
NO. 80

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HUMANITARIAN/SECURITY/INFRASTRUCTURE

1. (SBU) Under a new government regulation, a relief organization must first be registered in order to qualify for a duty exemption. Organizations unwilling to wait have paid large duties for the release of their goods. Relief workers argue the new process is delaying aid distribution and the government is attempting to profit from relief efforts. (DHS NOC Report)

2. (SBU) JTF-Haiti engineers are conducting home structural integrity training for UN and Haitian engineers. The training will increase the number of personnel qualified to provide safety assessments on Haitian families' homes to determine if they can return. (JTF Haiti Sitrep)

3. (SBU) The UN and partners reported vaccinating nearly 63,000 residents of spontaneous settlements between February 16 and 22, representing 10 percent of the targeted population. The government and NGOs are training additional staff to support the vaccination campaign. (DHS NOC Report)

4. (U) China announced it would provide tents worth \$2.92 million in additional aid to Haiti. (xinhuanet.com)

5. (U) Chilean President Bachelet said the 12-member Union of South American Nations is committed to providing \$100 million

in aid for Haiti. (AP)

¶6. (SBU) President Lula of Brazil will travel to Haiti to propose funding a hydroelectric power plant. (DHS NOC Update Report 85)

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

¶7. (SBU) MINUSTAH is optimistic for political stability in the short term, with President Preval receiving support from the majority of the Senate, and with opposition in the lower chamber too indifferent or disorganized to organize a challenge. In coming months Preval will need to ensure Haitian quake victims continue to see aid as impartial, fair, and administered both by the international community and the government in a transparent way. (Port-au-Prince 196)

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

¶8. (SBU) A four-person team of U.S. Geological Survey and University of Texas scientists will launch a study of seismic hazards in Haiti. The team anticipates the release of the assessment's initial results by mid-March. (USAID Sitrep #63)

¶9. (SBU) 194 Haitians were repatriated to Cap Haitien from Cuba February 24. They were headed to the United States but instead landed in Cuba where they were sent to a transit camp. The migrants were offered the choice of staying in Cuba, but

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decided to return to Haiti. (SOUTHCOM Sitrep)

¶10. (U) Additional updates are available through our Intellipedia portal on the unclassified system at:
http://www.intelink.gov/wiki/Portal:Crisis_Haiti_Earthquake.

¶11. (U) Minimize considered.
CLINTON